

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Currently amended): A quality control device for a blood analyzer using whole blood, comprising:

means for storing by refrigeration for control bloods;

means for restoring to temperature the control bloods to a temperature prescribed by the manufacturer of the control bloods;

means for stirring for re-suspension of cells; and

means for sampling the blood thus prepared,

wherein said quality control device is incorporated into ~~which makes it possible to incorporate the device in~~ the blood analyzer.

Claim 20 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 19, wherein the means for storing control bloods comprises a specified number of tubes sealed by a bung and arranged in a tube support in contact with a refrigeration block configured to adjust temperature and maintain an optimum temperature for storing the control bloods.

Claim 21 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 20, wherein the refrigeration block is a Peltier effect refrigeration block.

Claim 22 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 20, wherein the tube support is disconnected from the refrigeration block for restoring the temperature of the control bloods.

Claim 23 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 21, wherein current supplying the Peltier effect refrigeration block is interrupted for a specified period of time for restoration of the temperature of the control bloods.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 21, wherein the Peltier effect refrigeration block is controlled to reset and maintain quality control to its utilization temperature according to specifications of the manufacturer.

Claim 25 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 20, wherein the means for the stirring operates by rocking and/or inversion formed by the tube support articulated about a hinge of the refrigeration block.

Claim 26 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 25, wherein an angle of inversion is between 100° and 180°.

Claim 27 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 19, wherein the means for storing includes low-speed Vortex stirring means.

Claim 28 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 19, wherein the means for sampling includes a needle configured to draw blood from the tubes.

Claim 29 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 28, wherein the needle is driven in a transverse movement over the tubes of blood to be analyzed and the control bloods as well as over a counting block comprising mixing and rinsing tanks and in a vertical

movement to penetrate into the tubes by piercing the bungs or by descending into the counting block comprising mixing and rinsing tanks to carry out rinsing or dilutions of the blood.

Claim 30 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 29, wherein the piercing of the bungs is effected when the tubes on their support are in a high or low position.

Claim 31 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 19, further comprising programmable processing means for checking that values obtained by passing through each quality control correspond to limit values and expected values of the control blood.

Claim 32 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 31, wherein the processing means triggers an alarm if the values obtained during running of the quality control are outside the expected limits.

Claim 33 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 19, further comprising means for triggering a quality control procedure either directly by an operator or automatically or via an external connection to a control unit.

Claim 34 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 19, wherein transfer and analysis of data are affected via an internal or external network implementing standards of HL7, ASTM, or XML.

Claim 35 (Previously presented): A device according to claim 20, wherein the tubes include means for identification and tracking by barcodes, electronic chips, and/or magnetic labels.

Claim 36 (Canceled).